



Attorney Docket No. V000005/00US

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of Robert L. Fitzsimmons, Jr.

Serial No.: 09/881,216

Examiner: Unassigned

Confirmation No.: 5137

Art Unit: 2673

Filed: June 15, 2001

For: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR OPERATING A DISPLAY FACILITY OR  
OTHER PUBLIC SPACE

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

### PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

#### IN THE SPECIFICATION:

*Please replace the first paragraph on page 1 with the following paragraph. The amendments to the first paragraph on page 1 are indicated in the attached Appendix.*

The present application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/594,697, entitled "Methods and Apparatus for Supplementing the Experience of a Visitor to a Display Facility or Other Public Space" and filed June 16, 2000, which is incorporated herein in its entirety by reference.

*Please replace the first paragraph on page 14 with the following paragraph. The amendment to the first paragraph on page 14 are indicated in the attached Appendix.*

Figure 5 depicts the system communications aspects of the exemplary facility 400 of Figure 4 in greater detail. In Figure 5, an exemplary system network 500 includes the POS server 412, a representative docking station 422, two representative IR transmitters 434, a representative RF antenna 438, the RF audio transmitter 442, the IR exhibit server 444, the AV content server 452, the user profile database server 454, the content server 456, and the communications network 460, each connected and operating as described above with respect to Figure 4. Additionally, the exemplary system 500 includes an administration workstation 510 coupled to the communications network 460, a backup generator 520 coupled to the docking station 422, and an optional RF LAN 530 coupled to the communications network 460. Also in the figure, a network router 540 is coupled between the communications network 460 and a fast communications (e.g., fast Ethernet) network 550. A library content server 545, a library workstation 560, and a WWW site station 570 are coupled to the fast network 550.

*Please replace the first full paragraph on page 34 with the following paragraph. The amendment to the first full paragraph on page 34 are indicated in the attached Appendix.*

As shown in the exemplary embodiment of Figure 13, alignment pins 1352 of the PCB 1350 mate with corresponding receptacles 1300 of the device interface 1206 so as to correct any flaws in positioning (e.g., due to inaccurate placement of the carriers in the shelves, or of the docked devices within the carriers). Advantageously, this ensures proper connectivity between electrical contacts 1302 of the device interface 1206 and the spring-loaded connector 1354 of the

PCB 1350. Once the pins 1352 and the receptacles 1300 are aligned correctly, and once the contacts 1302 are physically touching the connector 1354, the docked device is ready for battery charging and/or software/data uploads and downloads.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

*Please cancel claim 1 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.*

*Please add the following new Claims 2-20.*

2. (New) A method of supplementing an experience of a visitor to a public space, the public space including a plurality of public space elements and information relating to the plurality of public space elements, the method comprising the steps of:

enabling a visitor to provide inputs relating to the plurality of public space elements while in the public space; and

providing the visitor access to supplemental information relating to the plurality of public space elements when the visitor is outside of the public space.

3. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein said enabling a visitor to provide inputs includes providing the visitor a device for use within the public space to provide the inputs.

4. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein said enabling a visitor to provide inputs includes enabling a visitor to proactively select the information relating to the plurality of public space elements while in the public space.

5. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein said providing the visitor access to supplemental information includes providing the visitor access to the supplemental information via a network.

6. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein said providing the visitor access to supplemental information includes providing the visitor access to the supplemental information via a network, and enabling a user to research additional supplemental information relating to the plurality of public space elements.

7. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein said providing the visitor access to supplemental information includes providing the visitor access to the supplemental information via a workstation.

8. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein the inputs relating to the plurality of public spaced elements is one of a bookmark, a keystroke, and a response to a query.

9. (New) The method of claim 2, further comprising:  
providing the visitor access to the information relating to the plurality of public space elements via a portable selection device while the visitor is in the public space.

10. (New) A method of accessing information relating to a public space element in a public space, the method comprising the steps of:

experiencing information relating to the public space element while in the public space;  
providing an input relating to the public space element while in the public space; and  
accessing supplemental information related to the public space element while outside of the public space.

11. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein said accessing supplemental information includes accessing the supplemental information via a workstation.

12. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein said accessing supplemental information includes accessing the supplemental information via a network.

13. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the supplemental information is related to the input relating to the public space element.

14. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the supplemental information is related to the input relating to the public space element, and the input includes one of a bookmark, a keystroke, and a response to a query.

15. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein said experiencing information relating to the public space element includes experiencing audio, video, text, and image content relating to the public space element while in the public space.

16. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein said providing an input relating to the public space element includes proactively selecting the supplemental information about the public space element while in the public space.

17. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein said providing an input relating to the public space element includes proactively selecting the supplemental information about the public space element while in the public space, and said accessing supplemental information includes accessing the selected supplemental information about the public space element.

18. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein said accessing supplemental information related to the public space element occurs proximate to the public space.

19. (New) A system for supplementing an experience of a visitor to a public space, the public space including a plurality of public space elements, said system comprising:

a portable selection device carried by the visitor as the visitor traverses the public space, said portable device enabling the visitor to provide inputs regarding the plurality of public space elements; and

a system for enabling the visitor to obtain additional information relating to the public space elements associated with the inputs when the visitor is outside of the public space.

20. (New) The system of claim 19, wherein said additional information includes at least one of audio, video, text, and image content, and a link to other information relating to the public display element.

### REMARKS

Entry and consideration of the foregoing amendments is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16, 1.17, and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1283.

Dated: *February 15, 2002*

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Enclosure: Appendix indicating Amendments

**APPENDIX**

*The changes made to the first paragraph on page 1 of the specification are:*

The present application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/594,697, entitled "Methods and Apparatus for Supplementing the Experience of a Visitor to a Display Facility or Other Public Space" and filed June 16, 2000, which is incorporated herein in its entirety by reference.

*The change made to the first paragraph on page 14 of the specification are:*

Figure 5 depicts the system communications aspects of the exemplary facility 400 of Figure 4 in greater detail. In Figure 5, an exemplary system network 500 includes the POS server 412, a representative docking station 422, two representative IR transmitters 434, a representative RF antenna 438, the RF audio transmitter 442, the IR exhibit server 444, the AV content server 452, the user profile database server 454, the content server 456, and the communications network 460, each connected and operating as described above with respect to Figure 4. Additionally, the exemplary system 500 includes an administration workstation 510 coupled to the communications network 460, a backup generator 520 coupled to the docking station 422, and an optional RF LAN 530 coupled to the communications network 460. Also in the figure, a network router 540 is coupled between the communications network 460 and a fast communications (e.g., fast Ethernet) network 550. A library content server ~~555~~545, a library workstation 560, and a WWW site station 570 are coupled to the fast network 550.



*The change made to the first full paragraph on page 34 of the specification are:*

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